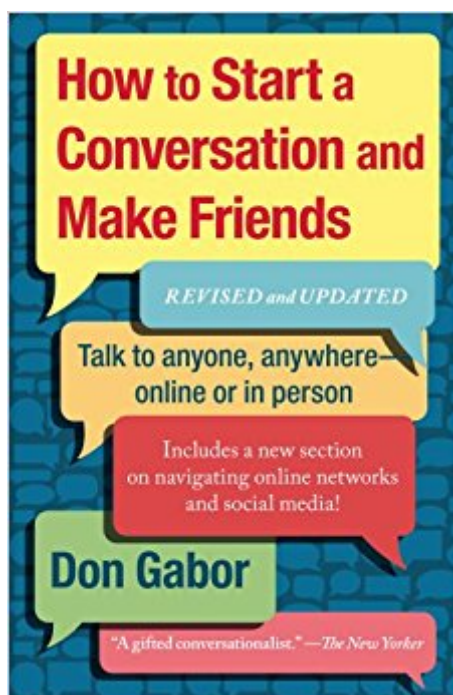


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# How To Start A Conversation And Make Friends: Revised And Updated



## Synopsis

Now revised and updated for the digital era, the classic bestseller > has helped hundreds of thousands of people communicate with wit, confidence, and enthusiasm for more than a generation. Small-talk expert Don Gabor has completely revised and updated this definitive guide, showing how to combine essential techniques in the art of conversation with necessary skills for communicating in the twenty-first century. By following the simple and dynamic guidelines in this easy-to-read book, you'll be ready to strike up a great conversation anytime, anywhere—whether you're at a cocktail party or chatting online. Learn how to keep the conversation going by asking the right questions, using body language effectively, and avoiding conversation pitfalls. Combining his tried-and-true methods with a whole new section on communicating online and through social networking, Don Gabor shows you how to:

- Identify your personal conversation style
- Engage in online conversations using proper etiquette and security
- Turn online conversations into face-to-face relationships
- Boost your personal and professional speaking skills to the next level

Packed with charts, hundreds of opening lines, real-life examples, FAQs, helpful hints, and solid professional advice, *How to Start a Conversation and Make Friends* will help you connect with others at home, work, online, in person, and everywhere in between.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The New Yorker" A gifted conversationalist.

Don Gabor is a “small talk” expert, communications trainer and the author of seven self-help books and audio programs. He shows people how to network and use conversation skills to build relationships in business, social and personal situations. Don is a frequent media guest and the 2010-2011 president of the New York City chapter of the National Speakers Association. The New Yorker called Don “a gifted conversationalist.” Visit him at [www.dongabor.com](http://www.dongabor.com).

This book contains several good tips for improving communications. A lot of the information contained in it is also in other books. One concept that the author addresses that is a bit different is something that he calls ‘free information,’ which are things that others reveal without any effort on the listener’s part. He has some interesting and valuable thoughts on that. Another area that the author discusses is online presence. That section may have some value for those who are into a lot of online activities. Overall, I think it is likely a valuable book for those who struggle in the area of conversation. I mainly bought it for a relative who struggles with shyness, but I read it first to check it out. It contains tips in several areas such as eye contact, body language, facial expressions, and active listening. I recommend it for those who struggle with initiating conversations with others. It is probably a worthwhile read even for those who are already skillful in the communications area.

Don Gabor is one of my favorite authors for learning how to communicate with friends or family. Sometimes it is hard for a person with aspergers like me to communicate with people that I know even. *How To Start a Conversation and Make Friends* was a very accurate representation of how to start a conversation and maintain it. My favorite thing about the book is that there was many conversation examples between him and other people which illustrated the communication skills that I have learned to this point from other authors such as Meryl Runion. I like books that have dialogue because it is much easier to learn communication from active dialogue as opposed to only reading tips and tricks about how to do so. I highly recommend this book.

I am an introvert and have trouble with small talk so I desperately needed some help in this area. This book was just the thing I needed. I used it to make flash cards of some conversation starters and extenders that I will memorize and plan to use.

Due to a traumatic brain injury as a child, I have incomplete social skills. This is an excellent book to help someone learn the basic conversational skills they may be lacking. Also, it may be good for

adults to relearn how to get along with people. The great thing about the CD is that I can listen to it in the car, over and over again. Eventually, the lessons start to stick.

I am surprised by some of the reviews suggesting that this book is not very good. I have read at least ten books of this type and this one is by far the best. Don't be deceived by its simplicity and easy to read form: it contains a lot of information including many important subtleties that other books lack, including many books twice as long. The book does exactly what it says in the title: it takes the reader through the process of how to start conversations and make friends. It doesn't make blanket statements like other books do, that in the real world could be disastrous. He explains, in simple but true and useful terms, how conversations start, why some ways of starting a conversation are more risky than others, how to continue a conversation, and so on. The one useful tip that I got from another book rather than this one was the idea of preparing a pithy, witty introductory statement about yourself. (That was from *How to Work a Room, Revised Edition: Your Essential Guide to Savvy Socializing*) *How To Start A Conversation And Make Friends* is thoughtful, gentle, and actually teaches you step-by-step how to do what it says in the title. Highly recommended.

I bought this for my 19 year old nephew who was a bit conversational inept. After he read the first chapter I saw an immediate change.

It's a great book for whoever just starting their own business but very shy at the open up for a conversation. It is very helpful to guide you step by step. Especially with very good deal for student like me.

Its a little embarassing to have sitting on your book shelf when people come over but overall it is an amazing self help book and I would recommend it to even people who think they can start conversations and make friends.

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